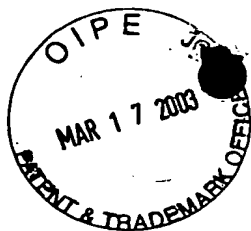


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
AKIRA MORIKAWA ET AL : EXAMINER: WRIGHT, W. G.
SERIAL NO: 09/911,489 :
FILED: JULY 25, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1754
FOR: COMPOSITE OXIDE, PROCESS :
FOR PRODUCING THE SAME,
CATALYST FOR PURIFYING
EXHAUST GAS, AND PROCESS
FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

RECEIVED
MAR 24 2003
GROUP 1700

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 9, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0166] (at pages 62-63) as follows:

[0166] The resulting composite oxide powder was observed with an FE-TEM, and was analyzed by an EPMA. As a result, it was found to comprise agglomerated particles 1, which had an average particle diameter of about 10 μm . The schematic structure of the composite oxide are illustrated in Fig. 1. The composite oxide powder was constituted mainly by three